



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Al Sommers
Sommers Marketing for ULI Austin
512-330-0500
asommers@sommersmarketing.com

ULI AUSTIN ANNOUNCES GARY S. FARMER OF HERITAGE TITLE COMPANY AS 2018 VISION AWARD RECIPIENT

AUSTIN, Texas – May 29, 2018 – ULI Austin, an education, research and resource organization focused on providing leadership in the responsible use of land and creating and sustaining thriving communities, today announced that Gary S. Farmer, President of Heritage Title Company of Austin, Inc. and Heritage Exchange Corporation of Texas, has been named the recipient of its prestigious annual Vision Award.

The ULI Austin Vision Award recognizes an individual in the field of real estate development or a related area such as finance, planning or design who has made an outstanding contribution in his or her lifetime within the Austin region. Winners are selected annually by the ULI Austin Governance Committee, and previous recipients of the award include Senator Kirk Watson (2017), Alan Graham of Mobile Loaves & Fishes (2016) and Tom Stacy of CapRidge Partners (2015).

“The Vision Award represents the highest honor one can receive from ULI Austin, and it speaks to an individual’s impact not just within the real estate industry but to our community as a whole,” said Edjuan Bailey, Vice President of Branding for Milestone Community Builders and current ULI Austin Chair. “Gary personifies what we should all aspire to achieve in our business and civic endeavors, and this award is but one way for us to express our thanks and gratitude.”

Farmer has been in the title insurance business since 1985. During his tenure, Heritage has been recognized for its excellence in the commercial title insurance arena and has grown to be among the largest independently owned title agencies in Texas.

“Gary Farmer is that unique citizen whose impact will be felt for decades to come and whose name will be uttered alongside Kozmetsky, Dell, Butler and Johnson,”

-more-

ULI Austin Names Gary Farmer as Recipient of 2018 Vision Award, page 2-3

said John McKinnerney, Principal at Castle Hill Partners and past ULI Austin Chair. “Not only is he effective, hardworking and trustworthy, but he is also a magnetic leader and a true Texan. He is the rare individual that works just as hard for his community as he does for his business. Truly a legendary character and beyond worthy of the ULI Austin Vision Award.”

Within the community, Farmer is involved in a variety of civic and charitable endeavors. He founded the Greater Austin Economic Development Corporation in 2003 and served as its chairman for eight years. During this time, Farmer oversaw the launch of Opportunity Austin in 2004, which served as a catalyst of growth not just for Austin but the entire Central Texas region. Since 2004, an estimated 319,200 new jobs have been added to Austin's regional economy. Much of Austin's success as an economically vibrant city can be attributed to Opportunity Austin and his hard work.

“Gary has an unwavering commitment to the well-being of our region,” said Greg Weaver, Executive Vice President of Catellus Development, past ULI Austin Chair and member of the Governance Committee. “His focus, both on the overall economic prosperity of Central Texas and on raising considerable capital funds for well-respected nonprofits, not only makes him worthy of this honor, but also of our community's gratitude for his many years of hard work.”

Farmer currently serves as chairman of the Greater Austin Economic Development Corporation, Opportunity Austin 4.0 Campaign and co-chair of the Waller Creek Conservancy Capital Campaign. Additionally, he is a board member of organizations including The University of Texas Chancellor's Council, The University of Texas Development Board, the President's Council of The Real Estate Council of Austin, the National Multi Housing Council and The Waller Creek Conservancy.

He is the past chair of Opportunity Austin, past chair of Advantage Austin III, co-founder and past chair of The Real Estate Council of Austin, past chair of Capital Area Transportation Coalition, past chair of Take on Traffic Initiative, past chair of Caritas Community Advisory Board (two terms), and has served as a board member on numerous other civic and charitable boards. He has also chaired six capital campaigns that have raised approximately \$75 million for community endeavors. Additionally, Farmer has served on three Mayoral Task Forces dealing with the economy, the environment and healthcare.

-more-

ULI Austin Names Gary Farmer as Recipient of 2018 Vision Award, page 3-3

“Gary is a consummate professional who has been an instrumental leader in quality business recruitment for Austin as well as a quiet supporter of many social issues here,” said Phil Capron, Chair at Falcon Southwest, past ULI Austin Chair and member of the Governance Committee. “I am proud to call Gary a good friend who reflects integrity and caring in the real estate business and the city of Austin as a whole. He truly represents all of the outstanding qualities of a ULI Austin Vision Award recipient.”

The Vision Award will be presented to Farmer at ULI Austin’s 2018 Impact Awards event, to be held on August 28 at the Zach Topfer Theater. Recipients of other competitive built project and individual award categories will also be recognized. For more information regarding sponsorship, registration and award entry and nomination, visit <https://tinyurl.com/ULI-Austin-Awards2018>.

About ULI Austin:

The Austin District Council of the Urban Land Institute was founded in 1999. Today, the Austin District Council includes more than 700 Austin-area professionals in the planning, architecture, design, engineering, investor, landscape, lender, legal, construction, communication and government industries, involved in every sector of real estate development, from residential and retail to commercial and hospitality. ULI is known for its topical monthly breakfasts, which feature local and international experts on topics important to the community’s growth and prosperity. For more information, visit Austin.ULI.org.

#